

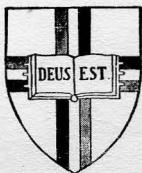
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Confraternity of Christian Doctrine
A course of study in religion for teachers...
Grades I & II
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RELIGIOUS VACATION SCHOOL MANUAL

FOR TEACHERS OF CATHOLIC CHILDREN
WHO ATTEND PUBLIC SCHOOLS

A COURSE OF STUDY FOR
GRADES I AND II



1942

Publications Department
CONFRATERNITY OF CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE
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*Additional copies of this Manual may be obtained
from the publisher*

A COURSE OF STUDY IN RELIGION

FOR TEACHERS OF CATHOLIC CHILDREN
ATTENDING PUBLIC SCHOOLS
GRADES I AND II

*Developed as a manual for the use of priests,
religious and lay teachers in
Religious Vacation School classes.*

*Prepared by a National Committee
under the auspices of
The Confraternity of Christian Doctrine:
Rev. Leon A. McNeill, General Chairman
Rev. George M. Dennerle, Chairman Grades I-V
Rev. Carmel J. Scanlan
Sister M. Rosalia, M. H.
Sister M. Immaculata, C. S. J.*

Individuals and Communities are invited to send to The Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Publications Department, suggestions for the revision and completion of this Manual. Desired changes noted in schools held during the summer will aid in such revision if they are submitted not later than September 1.

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Henry J. Zolzer,
Censor.

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✠ Thomas H. McLaughlin,
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INTRODUCTION

Religious instruction, to be most beneficial, must be adapted in both content and method to the needs and capacities of the pupils. Children should be classified according to their school grades. The ideal would be to have a separate class for the pupils of each grade, each learning religion at its own level. Sometimes, however, it will be found expedient to form several groups, with pupils of two or three grades in each group.

The course of study developed by the Confraternity provides for eight grades; but the pupils may be grouped for instruction according to local conditions. Pupils should be promoted from grade to grade at the close of each school year, and encouraged to continue in classes after as well as before receiving their First Holy Communion.

The children, excepting possibly first graders, should have individual copies of the basic textbooks designated for use in the diocese. Teachers should have the basic textbooks and appropriate instructional materials. In this **Manual** a brief list of references is given in connection with the course of study for each grade. A more extensive list from which selections may be made will be found in the **Reference List** at the back of this booklet. Each parish should gradually build up a catechetical library and a supply of instructional materials, to which carefully selected additions may be made each year. As essentials for every teacher should be a copy of the Bible, a Bible History suited to the grade level taught, and an explanatory text for the appropriate grade level of doctrine.

This course of study is based on **The First Communion Catechism** prepared from the new revision of the **Baltimore Catechism**.

As the catechism contains a statement of Catholic teaching in very brief form, its truths should be explained and made concrete through stories and pictures before the abstract text is approached. The meaning of each difficult word, too, should be

made clear. **Make suggestions for the practical application of the religious truths to the everyday life of the pupil and discuss the application with the class, not only after each lesson, but by frequently reverting to it in succeeding lessons.**

Project work, particularly in the form of developing booklets in correlation with the class lessons, is an important part of the program in the vacation school. Model projects for each grade are prepared by the Los Angeles Confraternity. In the Religious Vacation School the child develops his own booklets on the plan of the model project.

Certain **religious activities** may be assigned for home study, thus establishing a bond between home and school in the religious education of the children. The development of an attractive booklet containing pictures, drawings, and brief statements correlated with the topics of instruction may be made a genuine learning activity, as interesting as it is beneficial. It is a mistake to consider project activities as mere "busy work," or to give assignments which are intended only to keep the pupils occupied.

In the employment of other visual aids, care should be taken to achieve the legitimate aims of religious education. Good taste and aesthetic appreciation of religious masterpieces may be incidental outcomes of visual instruction, but the **primary concern in the use of all materials should be to impart knowledge, to develop ideas, to instil ideals, to foster spiritual growth, and to train in right conduct.** To this end, each lesson should be made as attractive as possible.

The decree of the Sacred Congregation of the Council on **The Better Care and Promotion of Catechetical Education** (January 12, 1935) directs that a central office be established in each diocese to plan and supervise the program of religious instruction. The direction of the work in the local parish or mission is the responsibility of the pastor. Usually he will need the help of zealous members of the laity to locate and register children, to provide transportation, and to assist in the actual instruction and training of the pupils. The Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, enjoined by Canon Law and now functioning successfully in many dioceses, would seem to be the ideal organization, both

diocesan and parochial, through which to recruit the laity for this type of service. Detailed information in regard to the Confraternity organization and program may be obtained at small cost by writing to: The Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, 1312 Massachusetts Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

The Religious Vacation School Manuals for Grades III-V and VI-VIII may be obtained from the publisher.

The following leaflets supply information and helpful directions for organizing Religious Vacation Schools (St. Anthony Guild Press, Paterson, N. J.):

No. 3B — The Religious Vacation School.

No. 4B — Instructions for Lay Teachers.

No. 4C — Instructions for Fishers (Home Visitors).

No. 4D — Instructions for Helpers.

The above leaflets are used to advantage in preparation for a Religious Vacation School. **The Manual of the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine** incorporates these and other Confraternity leaflets.

To obtain practical results each child, excepting possibly those of the first grade, should have a catechism (any graded series) or a textbook and a corresponding religious project. The teacher's model project supplies information for the presentation of each lesson.

Each teacher should have a Teacher's Manual corresponding to the catechism or text used in the grade taught, or an explanatory text.

Scriptural references are included in the lesson outlines to direct the teacher to the complete story.

Bible charts for teachers (for use in all grades), with 13 colored pictures, 21-33 inches, on each roll: *The Life of Christ*, *Christ Establishes His Church*, *The Parables of Our Lord* (all New Testament), *Keeping Alive the Knowledge of the Promised Redeemer* (Old Testament), \$1.50 each. These and other visual aids may be had from Co-op Parish Activities Service, Effingham, Ill., Loyola University Press, Chicago, Illinois, The Catechetical Guild, St. Paul, Minnesota, or St. Anthony's Guild, Paterson, N. J. Write for price lists and literature.

Suggested Daily Schedule

- 8:15 *Holy Mass (Mass Books and Prayer Books, p. 35)*
9:00 *Salute the Cross, Salute the Flag, opening prayers and hymn*
9:10 *Picture Study and Sacred Story*
9:30 *Christian Doctrine*
10:00 *Religious Practice*
10:10 *Recess with supervised recreation*

Activities

- 10:30 *Hymn*
10:45 *Liturgy*
11:00 *Project*
11:50 *Closing prayers*
12:00 *Dismissal*

The daily schedule must necessarily be adapted to local circumstances. Where teachers are best qualified to teach a specific subject, departmental work produces excellent results. Suggestions for the hymns and recreational programs will be found on pages 27 and 28. In the following lessons only six parts of the foregoing schedule are outlined: Picture Study and Sacred Story, Christian Doctrine, Religious Practice, Hymn, Liturgy, Project.

FIRST-GRADE RELIGION

GENERAL OBJECTIVES:

1. To help the child to know and love God, his heavenly Father;
2. To help the child to know, love, and imitate Jesus;
3. To help the child know and understand his prayers, and to cultivate in him a desire to say them;
4. To help make the child's first impressions of religion as happy as possible.

Texts of reference for the teacher:

First Communion Catechism, prepared from the Revised Baltimore
The Holy Bible (read references in each lesson in advance of class hour)

Bible Story or *Bible Lessons*

Christian Doctrine, Grade I, development of lessons in this outline

Bible pictures: "Jesus and I" chart

See this **Manual: Suggested Music Program**, p. 27; **Recreation Program**, p. 28.

Prayers to be learned:

Sign of the cross

Our Father

Hail Mary

"Angel of God"

Child's Morning Offering

Simple Acts of Faith, Hope, Love, and Contrition

For the pupil:

Materials for prayer projects

3. *Practice*: Prayers: Sign of the cross. "Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven." Teach some specific way of being good to please God: obedience to parents, teachers; kindness to brothers and sisters and playmates; at home, at school, at play. God has given parents and teachers to tell the child what His holy will is.

4. *Activities*:

Liturgy: Continue from previous day.

Project: Trace and color large picture of clover, symbol of Trinity, for their own Religion Picture Book.

WEDNESDAY God Has Given Me a Guardian Angel

(Review by children of previous lesson)

Aim: To know that God loves me so much He has given me a beautiful angel to take care of me.

1. *Picture Study and Story*: Guardian angel (Ex. 23:20; Matt. 18:10); creation, trial, fall of the bad and reward of the good angels (Col. 1:16; Is. 14:12-15; 2 Pet. 2:4; 1 John 3:8).

2. *Doctrine*: God made many angels. He wanted them to stay good. Some of the angels would not do what God wanted. Hell was made for the bad angels. God took the good angels to heaven with Him forever. He loves me so much He gave me a guardian angel to help me to be good. Catechism questions 2-3.

3. *Practice*: Prayer: "Angel of God, my guardian dear,

To whom God's love entrusts me here,

Ever this day be at my side

To light and guard, to rule and guide. Amen"

Devotion to the guardian angel in a twofold manner: prayer and obedience to his inspirations. Develop this as a help to being happy forever in heaven.

4. *Activities*:

Liturgy: Continue with church manners.

Project: Have children paste pictures of angels (cut from Christmas cards, books, etc.) in their Religion Picture Book. Write the prayer.

THURSDAY God Makes Our First Parents

(Review by children of previous lesson)

Aim: To know that God wants me to be happy and gives some of His brightness and beauty to my soul.

1. *Picture Study and Story*: Picture of Adam and Eve in the garden. (Gen. 1:26-31; 2:15-25).

2. *Doctrine*: God made Adam and Eve. He gave each of them a body and a soul. He gave them some of His very own brightness and beauty for their souls. It is called grace. God loved Adam and Eve. He took care of all their needs. God told Adam and Eve what they must do. Catechism questions 3-4.
3. *Practice*: Prayer: "Give us this day our daily bread." God takes care of all our needs. He wants us to ask for His help. We ask in this part of the Our Father that He will give us all that we need for our souls and our bodies.
4. *Activities*:
Liturgy: Continue from previous day.
Project: A circle of sparkling paper to give them some idea of the brightness and beauty of the soul as God created it, to be pasted in Religion Picture Book. If clay is available, have them model a miniature "Garden of Eden."

FRIDAY

God Makes a Wonderful Promise

(Review by children of previous lesson)

Aim: To know that God so loved us that He promised to send Jesus.

1. *Picture Study and Story*: Adam and Eve leaving the garden; promise of a Redeemer (Gen. 3).
2. *Doctrine*: Adam and Eve disobeyed God. They lost grace, and because Adam was the father of all other people, we do not have grace in our souls when we are born. Adam's sin is on our soul. Adam and Eve were sorry they had disobeyed God, and because God loved them He made a wonderful promise before they left the garden. He told them that some day He would send Someone to give back grace to souls. Review lessons of the week; stress God's goodness.
3. *Practice*: Prayer: "And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil." We tell God we are sorry for the naughty things we have done, and ask Him to forgive us. We ask that He will save us from all harm. We promise God that we will listen to our guardian angel, and do what he tells us.
4. *Activities*:
Liturgy: A visit to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. Point out and explain the tabernacle and the sanctuary lamp.
Project: Complete whatever is unfinished in the Religion Picture Book for the week.

SECOND WEEK

Theme: Jesus comes to us. He shows us what to do. He helps us to be good.

MONDAY God Chooses a Mother for His Son

Aim: To appreciate God's great love, shown when He sends Jesus to save me.

1. *Picture Study and Story*: The Annunciation of the Saviour (Luke 1:26-38).
2. *Doctrine*: Adam and Eve told their children of the promise of the Saviour to come. Many of the people were bad; they would not obey God. The good people waited and prayed for the Saviour to come. At last the time came. God chose Mary to be the Mother of His Son. He sent the angel Gabriel to ask her to be the Mother of Jesus. Mary said, "Yes." Catechism questions 14, 17, 19.
3. *Practice*: "Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee." To please God, boys and girls should try to be like Mary: modest, kind, doing God's holy will. Then grace will be in their souls, too.
4. *Activities*:

Hymn: "Dear Little One," or similar hymn to Jesus; start with the words.

Liturgy: Visit to Mary's altar in church.

Project: Make a little shrine for the Blessed Mother (picture mounted on attractive card with ribbon hanger) to take home today.

TUESDAY Jesus Comes to Us — The Shepherds at the Crib

(Review by children of previous lesson)

Aim: An attitude of love for Jesus, and desire to attend Holy Mass each Sunday.

1. *Picture Study and Story*: The birth of Jesus; the shepherds at the crib (Luke 2:1-20).
2. *Doctrine*: Jesus is the Son of God. He is man, too. He came to make up for sin, to win back grace for us, to reopen heaven. He loves us. Mother Mary loves us, too. The shepherds obeyed right away. They knew that the little Baby was God and man. When we go to church we visit Jesus who is in the tabernacle. Jesus is pleased when we come to visit Him as the shepherds did. I please Him especially when I come to Mass every Sunday. I can please Jesus in my work, my play, and when I pray. Catechism questions 15, 16, 18.
3. *Practice*: Prayer: "Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus." We tell the Blessed Mother that she is

holier than all other women, and that her little Son is all-holy too, for Jesus is God.

4. *Activities:*

Hymn: Continue with words from previous day.

Liturgy: Visit to Mary's altar.

Project: Dramatize journey to Bethlehem; or the Nativity; the visit of the shepherds.

WEDNESDAY The Magi Visit Jesus — A Bad King Wants to Kill Jesus
(Review by children of previous lesson)

Aim: To know that Jesus is God's Best Gift to us. We say, "Thank You," and we give God gifts. We obey to please Jesus.

1. *Picture Study and Story:* The Magi; the flight into Egypt (Matt. 2:1-18).

2. *Doctrine:* Some good kings came to see Jesus. They brought Him gifts. In the Mass we offer ourselves to God with Jesus. God gives us gifts too. He will give us the strength to be kind, and modest, to tell the truth, to obey, to be honest. There was a king named Herod who was very bad. He sent soldiers to kill the Baby Jesus. People who will not obey God or listen to their guardian angels are called sinners. We are sinners, too. We must be sorry for sins that we have done, because they displease God. We must try to do better. We must ask Jesus to help us. Holy Mary will help us to be good, too. Catechism questions 39-41.

3. *Practice:* Prayer: "Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners."

4. *Activities:*

Hymn: Start learning melody of "Dear Little One."

Liturgy: Continue from previous day.

Project: Paste scenes of the Nativity, the visit of the shepherds and the Magi in Religion Picture Book. Dramatize the visit of the Magi, the flight into Egypt.

THURSDAY Jesus Shows Us What to Do and How to Work
(Review by children of previous lesson)

Aim: To want to do things the way Jesus did them; to follow His example.

1. *Picture Study and Story:* The return to Nazareth (Matt. 2:19-23); Jesus helping St. Joseph and Our Lady (Luke 2:51-52).

2. *Doctrine:* Jesus was happy to do what He was told. He obeyed St.

Joseph and the Blessed Mother, though He knew everything, for Jesus is God. Jesus wants boys and girls to be happy in obeying, in learning new lessons, in helping at home, in going to church. God tells boys and girls what to do through their parents and their teachers. When St. Joseph died, Jesus did the work that St. Joseph had taught Him. Jesus took good care of His Mother Mary. Some day we shall have to die. We want the Blessed Mother to pray for us when we are dying. Catechism questions 21-22.

3. *Practice*: Prayer: "Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen."

4. *Activities*:

Hymn: Continue with melody from previous day.

Liturgy: Visit a shrine of Mary (a statue) in church.

Project: Color outline picture of the Boy Jesus at Nazareth.

FRIDAY

Jesus Shows Us How to Pray

(Review by children of previous lesson)

Aim: To go to Mass always on Sundays, and to desire to visit Jesus in His home, the church, when we can.

1. *Picture Study and Story*: The Child Jesus in the Temple (Luke 2:41-52).

2. *Doctrine*: The Holy Family went to the Temple to pray. They prayed at home, too. They liked especially to go to God's House to pray. We always go to God's House for Mass on Sundays and holidays. We pray at home, too. Everything that we think, and do, and say can be given to God as a prayer. We pray in a special way in the morning and at night. Review doctrine of the week.

3. *Practice*: Prayer: Child's Morning Offering, offering everything to God:

"My God, I offer You today
All I shall think, or do, or say —
Uniting it with what was done
On earth, by Jesus Christ, Your Son."

4. *Activities*:

Hymn: Continue with melody as needed.

Liturgy: Genuflect properly, kneel straight, stand straight in church, God's House. Proper use of holy water on entering and leaving church.

Project: Picture of child praying, for Religion Picture Book.

THIRD WEEK

Theme: Jesus teaches us what to do.

MONDAY Jesus Teaches Us to Be Kind — Jesus Hears Our Prayers

Aim: To know of Jesus' kindness and power; that He hears and answers our prayers. To know that Jesus is God.

1. *Picture Study and Story*: Jesus teaching the people (Luke 6:17-49); the storm on the lake (Mark 4:35-40).
2. *Doctrine*: Jesus wants us to do to others as we would like them to do to us (Matt. 25:31-40). Once He said: "What you do for others, you do for Me." Jesus tells us to be kind to others, share what we can with those who need it. We are really sharing with Jesus when we share with others. Jesus does many kind things. He helps the apostles when they are badly frightened. Jesus is God and man. The apostles pray to Jesus and Jesus tells the storm to stop. It obeys Him. Only God can make storms obey. Catechism questions 24-27.
3. *Practice*: When we pray we should say, "Please" and "Thank You." Every real prayer is always answered in some way. When we pray for things that might do us harm, God, who sees that they would hurt us, answers our prayers by giving us something that is better for us than what we asked for.
4. *Activities*:

Hymn: "Jesus, Jesus, Come to Me." Start learning words.

Liturgy: Tell what the Epistles are. What I should do when they are read at Mass.

Project: Color outline picture of storm at sea. Paste in Religion Picture Book picture of Jesus helping others.

TUESDAY Jesus Made His Church for Me

(Review by children of previous lesson)

Aim: To appreciate the fact that Jesus gave me His Catholic Church to teach me what to do.

1. *Picture Study and Story*: The choice of the Twelve (Luke 6:12-16). Jesus feeds five thousand (John 6:5-13).
2. *Doctrine*: Jesus chose twelve men to be with Him all the time. They were to be His first priests. Jesus taught these apostles about God. He showed them how to pray. He told them what to do. Jesus taught them to be very kind. The apostles helped Jesus to feed the people. Later on they taught the people about Jesus. Now the priests teach us what to believe and tell us what to do to please

Jesus. We learn about Jesus from our catechism, at religion class, in church. Catechism questions 21, 22, 24, 28.

3. *Practice*: Reverence toward priests. Speaking to priests when meeting them on the street. Listen carefully to what priests read and say at Mass.

4. *Activities*:

Hymn: Continue words from Monday.

Liturgy: The priests pray for us every day; what is our return?

Project: If possible, have each child meet one of the parish priests and talk with him. Paste pictures of priests (from any Catholic magazine, especially *Catholic Missions*) in Religion Picture Book.

WEDNESDAY Jesus Helps Me to Be Good

(Review by children of previous lesson)

Aim: To know that Jesus loves everybody and helps us in many ways.

1. *Picture Study and Story*: The penitent woman (Luke 7:36-50).

2. *Doctrine*: Jesus wants everybody to be good. But people are not always good. They are sinners. Jesus helps them to be sorry for their sins. When they are sorry and mean to be good, Jesus forgives them. God's gift of grace helps them to be good, if they try. God's grace gives brightness and beauty to their souls, and strength to be good. Jesus won grace for us, and God always gives it to us through Jesus when we ask for it. Catechism questions 29-32, 44.

3. *Practice*: Prayer: "Jesus, I am sorry for all my sins. Help me to be good." Every night I will try to remember what I have done that was naughty. I will be sorry for these naughty things because they displease God. I will promise Him that I will do better. I will ask God to help me.

4. *Activities*:

Hymn: Start learning melody of "Jesus, Jesus Come to Me."

Liturgy: Show the confessional.

Project: Dramatize the story. Have children color outline picture of Jesus forgiving the penitent woman.

THURSDAY Jesus Stays with Me

(Review by children of previous lesson)

Aim: Love for Jesus in the tabernacle. Desire to receive Jesus in Holy Communion.

1. *Picture Study and Story*: Institution of the Holy Eucharist (Matt. 26:26-28; Luke 22:19-20).

2. *Doctrine*: Jesus loved to be on earth with children. He did not want to leave them alone, but wanted to stay with them. So He chose a way to do it. He changed bread and wine into Himself. He could do that because Jesus is God. Then He made His apostles the first priests, and gave them the power to change bread and wine into Himself. Today Jesus' priests have the same power too. They use this power in the Mass. In the Mass the priest really changes bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Jesus. Since the Mass is so very wonderful, I will try never to miss Mass on Sundays or holydays. Catechism questions 48-50.
 3. *Practice*: Spiritual Communion: "Jesus, Jesus come to me!" Ways of getting my soul ready to receive Jesus. I can do this by being kind, by obeying, praying in the right way, learning my lessons.
 4. *Activities*:
Hymn: Continue melody and sing it in church.
Liturgy: Visit to Jesus in the tabernacle.
Project: Have the children paste a picture of an altar, or draw an altar in their Religion Picture Book.
-

FRIDAY

Jesus Dies for Me

(Review by children of previous lesson)

- Aim: To know that Jesus, by dying to make up for our sins, shows us how much He hates sin and how much He loves us.
1. *Picture Study and Story*: The Crucifixion; death of Jesus (Matt. 27:34-56).
 2. *Doctrine*: Jesus died to make up for sin. He died to win back grace, so everybody could see God face to face in heaven. He died to re-open heaven. Jesus' death on the cross shows how bad sin is, and teaches us to be sorry for sins. Jesus offers His sufferings to God, for us. Catechism questions 19-21. Review the week's *Doctrine*.
 3. *Practice*: Each night I will find out what I have done that was naughty and tell God I am sorry. Prayer: "O my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended Thee."
 4. *Activities*:
Hymn: Conclude learning of the hymn of the week if possible.
Liturgy: Explain the Stations as "the things that happened as Jesus was on the way to die for us." Do this in church, going with the children from Station to Station.
Project: Paste picture of Crucifixion in Religion Picture Book.

FOURTH WEEK

Theme: Jesus gives us His Church and His priests. They teach us the way to heaven. They help us to follow that way.

MONDAY

Jesus Forgives Me All My Sins

Aim: Joy that Jesus will not suffer any more, and gratitude to Jesus for thinking of me by leaving me His Church and giving His priests the power to forgive sins.

1. *Picture Study and Story*: The Resurrection of Jesus (Matt. 28:1-8); the disciples (John 20:19-23).
2. *Doctrine*: Jesus rose from the dead on Easter Sunday, the third day after His death. He had told His apostles long before He died that He would bring Himself to life again. Jesus is God; He can do all things. At the end of the world Jesus will bring me to life again. Everyone who dies with God's grace in his soul will have a beautiful, strong body. This body will go to heaven with the soul, to stay there forever. Jesus knew that we can be happy only when we are good. He gave to the apostles, and to all His priests, the power to take away sins. We must tell our sins to Jesus' priest. We must be truly sorry for them, and try never to do them again. Father takes away our sins then, using the power that Jesus gave him. Our souls are beautiful and shining with God's grace. Catechism questions 44, 45, 50, 54.
3. *Practice*: Prayer: "Jesus, I believe in Thee."
4. *Activities*:

Hymn: Review the hymn of the second week, "Dear Little One."

Liturgy: Show the children the confessional, the place where people's souls get bright and beautiful again with God's grace when they are sorry for their sins, tell them to the priest, and promise that they will try hard not to do those sins again. Point out the priest's place, the place where the child will kneel, the crucifix.

Project: Pictures of Easter Sunday for Religion Picture Book.

TUESDAY

St. Peter, the Head of the Church

(Review by children of previous lesson)

Aim: Gratitude to Jesus for giving us our Holy Father, the Pope, to take care of us for Him.

1. *Picture Study and Story*: The primacy of Peter (John 21:15-17).
2. *Doctrine*: Jesus thinks of everything. He knew we should always

need someone to tell us what we should know about Him, and just what to do to please Him. So He said to Peter: "Feed My lambs. Feed My sheep." Peter was the very first Pope. When Jesus said: "Feed My lambs," He meant me. He meant that our Holy Father should always see that I have someone to teach me about Jesus. Our Holy Father does this. Catechism questions 45, 52-54.

3. *Practice*: Personal interest in and love for the Holy Father and the Bishops, especially the Bishop of the Diocese.
4. *Activities*:
Hymn: Continue from Monday.
Liturgy: Review as needed by a visit to the church: observe altar, pulpit, etc.
Project: Picture of Holy Father, picture of Bishop, for Religion Picture Book.

WEDNESDAY Jesus Tells His Apostles How to Baptize Everyone
(Review by children of previous lesson)

Aim: To know that I am God's own child and that some of His beauty and brightness is in my soul.

1. *Picture Study and Story*: Commission of the apostles: "Go, . . . make disciples . . . , baptizing . . ."; Jesus' priests teaching, baptizing, forgiving sins (Matt. 28:16-20).
2. *Doctrine*: Jesus wanted to give back to me the gift of God's grace that Adam lost. So He told His apostles, and all His priests: "Go, . . . baptizing them [everybody] in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit" (Matt. 28:19). When I was a tiny baby, God's priest baptized me just as Jesus said. Then God's gift of grace, that Jesus won on the cross for me, came to my soul. God came too, to stay in a special way, because He loves me so. Some day Jesus will come to me in Holy Communion. Some day God the Holy Ghost will come to my soul in a very special way to help me love God more and to make me strong to do good. We call His coming in this way the sacrament of Confirmation. The priests of the Catholic Church teach, baptize, forgive sins, as the apostles did. They receive this power from Jesus. Catechism questions 40-43.
3. *Practice*: Prayer: "Jesus, I hope in Thee." Review Hail Mary.
4. *Activities*:
Hymn: Review hymn of the third week, "Jesus, Jesus, Come to Me."
Liturgy: Visit to baptistry. Let the children see the baptismal font,

the candle, the white cloth, and explain how and why these were used at their Baptism.

Project: Have the children draw a candle in their Religion Picture Book.

THURSDAY

Heaven Is My Real Home

(Review by children of previous lesson)

Aim: To know that God made a beautiful home for us in heaven; to go there by obeying God.

1. *Picture Study and Story:* The Ascension (Acts 1:4-11).
2. *Doctrine:* Jesus has given us His Church, His priests, His sacraments, even Himself to stay in our tabernacles and come into our hearts. Now He goes back to His Father in heaven. He goes to prepare a place for us. He always thinks of us and prays for us. Jesus is very happy. He wants us to come to heaven and be happy with Him, with His Blessed Mother, with all His lovely angels and the saints. We will get to heaven by loving Jesus and doing what He wants; by being obedient, truthful, kind; by praying. At the end of the world, our bodies will rise from the grave. If we have tried our best to be good, our bodies will be bright and shiny and beautiful to look at. Then our body will go to heaven with our soul. Catechism question 46.

3. *Practice:* Prayer: "Jesus, I love Thee."

4. *Activities:*

Hymn: Continue from Wednesday.

Liturgy: Continue from Wednesday.

Project: Paste in their Religion Picture Book pictures of some saints and a photograph of themselves.

FRIDAY Jesus Loves Me Very Much. He Prays for Me in the Mass

(Review by children of previous lesson)

Aim: To appreciate the fact that Jesus stays with us in the Holy Eucharist. Promise to pray with Jesus in the Mass every Sunday and holyday.

1. *Picture Study and Story:* Review the Holy Eucharist (Matt. 26:26-28; Luke 22:19-20); the Crucifixion (Luke 23:33-46).
2. *Doctrine:* Jesus went back to His home in heaven, but He stays with me too. He stays in the tabernacle. The little white Host is Jesus. In the Mass, priests change bread and wine into Jesus Himself. Jesus gave priests the power to do this. The priest gives Jesus to good people in Holy Communion. Jesus wants to be with us always,

so He lets the priest put Him in the tabernacle. Some day Jesus will come into my heart too. In the Mass Jesus prays for me. He prays for everybody. I pray with Jesus in the Mass; I pray for everybody too. Jesus gives a Gift to God in the Mass: it is Jesus and I. I give a Gift to God in the Mass too: it is the same Gift — Jesus and I! I will not miss Mass on Sundays or holydays. Catechism questions 49-51.

3. *Practice:* To live with Jesus by saying and meaning the Morning Offering. Review "Child's Morning Offering." Spiritual Communion in the Mass.

4. *Activities:*

Project: Paste printed Morning Offering on last page of Religion Picture Book. Put cover on, and paste attractive picture of Jesus on the front. Complete whatever was unfinished from previous weeks. Let children see each other's work — or parents view the projects.

SECOND-GRADE RELIGION

GENERAL OBJECTIVES:

1. To increase the child's love of Jesus;
2. To improve the child's understanding of his prayers, and to deepen his appreciation of them;
3. To prepare the child, according to his capacity, for a **devout** and **intelligent** reception of the sacraments of Penance and Holy Eucharist; or to relive the experiences if the child has already received them.

Grade Two is frequently First Communion Year. This outline is based on that assumption. Where children have received First Holy Communion in the spring, the work of the vacation school should be a vivid recall of the happy experiences of that day. It should offer the means of solidifying both the doctrine and devotion of the past school year.

This outline offers additional stories to the **School Year Manual** of the same grade level, so as to avoid monotony. It is also enriched with *Activities* that will afford joy and open new approaches to learning for the vacation school child.

Texts of reference for the teacher:

First Communion Catechism, prepared from the Revised Baltimore
The Holy Bible (read references in each lesson in advance of class hour)

Bible Story or *Bible Lessons*

Christian Doctrine, Grade II, development of lessons in this outline

Pictures, charts, etc. See this **Manual, Visual Aids**, p. 29; **Music Program**, p. 27; **Recreation Program**, p. 28.

For the pupil:

First Communion Catechism or narrative text

Materials for First Communion project book

Grade Two

FIRST WEEK

Theme: God made us to know, love, and serve Him in this world and to be happy with Him in heaven.

MONDAY

God Is All-Powerful

Aim: To appreciate the greatness and power of God, who made all things by His word only.

1. *Picture Study and Story:* God created heaven and earth and all things (Gen. ch. 1). Story of St. Francis and the birds.
2. *Doctrine:* God made the world. God is the Creator of heaven and earth and all things. He is our Father. Catechism questions 1-2 and 6-9.
3. *Practice:* Prayers: Sign of the cross; "Our Father . . . Thy name." Guide the children in making original prayers of thanks to God for all He has given us.
4. *Activities:*

Hymn: See **Suggested Music Program**, p. 27.

Liturgy: Church manners such as taking holy water, genuflection, etc.

Project: Start project booklet; cut picture of cross, or of some things God made.

TUESDAY

God's Loving Care

(Review by children of previous lesson)

Aim: To appreciate God's goodness and love in giving us a guardian angel.

1. *Picture Study and Story:* The guardian angel (Exod. 23:20; Matt. 18:10); the story of Tobias (Tob. 5:5).
2. *Doctrine:* God made the angels. Angels are spirits without bodies who were created to love and serve God. God gave each of us an angel to watch over us. See footnote, **First Communion Catechism**, p. 1. Review questions of Monday; add 23.
3. *Practice:* Prayer: "Angel of God." Original prayers: suggest the following thought: "Guardian Angel, thank you for your care of me." Continue the Our Father: "Thy kingdom come, . . . in heaven."

4. *Activities:*

Hymn: Guardian angel hymn such as "Dear Angel Ever at My Side."

Liturgy: Statues of angels in church, connect with behavior in Church.

Project: Cut picture of angels and write original prayers beneath in Religion Picture Book.

WEDNESDAY Why God, Who Knows All Things, Made Us

(Review by children of previous lesson)

Aim: To reverence and love God, our Father, who made us for heaven.
To desire to do always what God wants me to do.

1. *Picture Study and Story:* Creation of Adam and Eve (Gen. ch. 2).

2. *Doctrine:* God made Adam and Eve. God made us. He gave each of us a soul that will never die. If we obey God's law, we will be happy in heaven. Adam and Eve disobeyed God. Disobeying God is called sin. God is everywhere. He knows all things. I belong to God. I will obey Him. To think, say, or do anything against the commandments is a sin. Catechism questions 3, 22, 24.

3. *Practice:* Prayer: continue the Our Father: "Give us . . . Amen." How to act when tempted: I will say, "Jesus, help me. Kind Father, You are everywhere. Stay with me and keep me always good."

4. *Activities:*

Hymn: Continue with hymn from Tuesday.

Project: Cut or color picture of Adam and Eve in Paradise. Add brief doctrinal phrases.

THURSDAY God Is Just — God Is Forgiving

(Review by children of previous lesson)

Aim: To know about God's justice in rewarding the good and punishing the wicked. To feel gratitude to God for His goodness in promising a Redeemer.

1. *Picture Study and Story:* Adam and Eve leaving the Garden of Paradise (Gen. ch. 3); Madonna and Child. Story of Bernadette.

2. *Doctrine:* God was sorry for Adam and Eve because they sinned. Still, He had to punish them when they would not obey. Because we are Adam's children, when we were born we did not have God's brightness and beauty (grace) in our soul. Original sin was in our soul. God promised Adam to free man from his sins and to reopen the gates of heaven. He promised to do this by sending to the world a Saviour. Mary is the Mother of the Saviour. Mary was free from original sin. Catechism questions 25-27, 41.

3. *Practice:* Review the Our Father. Teach the children to think of the faults committed during the day and as part of their night prayers to tell God they are sorry. Begin the Apostles' Creed: "I believe in God . . . and earth."
 4. *Activities:*
Hymn: Continue with hymn from Tuesday.
Liturgy: A visit to the baptismal font, or explanation of devotion to the Immaculate Conception.
Project: Cut or color pictures of Blessed Virgin. Add short prayers.
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FRIDAY

The Blessed Trinity

(Review by children of previous lesson)

Aim: To reverence and love the three Persons in the Blessed Trinity.

1. *Picture Study and Story:* St. Patrick and the shamrock; St. Augustine and the angel. The baptism of Jesus (Luke 3:21-22).
2. *Doctrine:* There is only one God. In God there are three Divine Persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost. When we are baptized, God comes to live in our soul. God continues to live in us if we love Him. The Holy Ghost will pay us a special visit in the sacrament of Confirmation. Soon, Jesus will come to us in Holy Communion. Catechism questions 10-13.
3. *Practice:* Honor the Blessed Trinity by making the sign of the cross devoutly. Learn the prayer: "Glory be to the Father, . . . world without end. Amen." Review the Creed from the beginning to " . . . Our Lord."
4. *Activities:* Complete whatever is unfinished from the previous days of the week. Relate the liturgy, e.g., manners in church, with the children's approaching First Holy Communion.

SECOND WEEK

Theme: Jesus, who is God, showed us by His example
how we ought to live.

MONDAY

The Annunciation

Aim: To develop confidence in our Blessed Mother whom God loves so dearly.

1. *Picture Study and Story:* The Annunciation (Luke 1:26-38).
2. *Doctrine:* The angel Gabriel announced to Mary that she was to be the Mother of God. Jesus, Mary's Son, is the Son of God. Jesus is

the Saviour whom God promised to Adam and Eve. Catechism questions 14, 15, 17.

3. *Practice*: Prayers: "Hail Mary... Jesus"; the Creed: "Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost."

4. *Activities*:

Hymn: Communion hymn, such as "Jesus, Thou Art Coming."

Liturgy: Begin explaining about the preparation of soul necessary for fruitful Communion.

Project: Cut or color pictures suggested by the lesson and add doctrinal statements.

TUESDAY The Nativity — The Adoration of the Magi

(Review by children of previous lesson)

Aim: To appreciate God's great Gift to us on that first Christmas night. Faith that the Infant Jesus is true God.

1. *Picture Study and Story*: Jesus born in Bethlehem (Luke 2:1-7); the Magi; the flight into Egypt (Matt. 2:1-18).

2. *Doctrine*: Jesus, who was born on Christmas night, is the Son of God. He is man, too. Jesus is the Saviour. He came on earth to win back grace for us, to free us from sin, and to reopen heaven for us. The Magi followed the star to find the Infant Saviour. They adored Him as their King. They offered Him gifts. God sent an angel to tell St. Joseph to take the Child and His Mother and go into Egypt. Catechism questions 16, 18, 19.

3. *Practice*: Share with others the use of playthings. Genuflect reverently in church. I will say as I genuflect: "Sweet Jesus, I adore Thee." Review of the Creed as far as "born of the Virgin Mary."

4. *Activities*:

Hymn: Continue with that from Monday.

Liturgy: Explain the sanctuary lamp, relate to Eucharistic Presence.

Project: Pictures suggested by the lesson. Write prayers.

WEDNESDAY The Boyhood of Jesus

(Review by children of previous lesson)

Aim: The spirit of prayer and obedience as exemplified by the Boy Jesus.

1. *Picture Study and Story*: The Holy Family (Luke 2:39-40); the Child Jesus in the Temple (Luke 2:41-52).

2. *Doctrine*: Jesus went to the Temple in Jerusalem in obedience to God's law. He prayed in the Temple. When Mary and Joseph found

Jesus, He went back to Nazareth with them, to do as they wished Him to do. Jesus, Mary, and Joseph are the Holy Family. Jesus gave us an example of how we should love God and obey Him. He showed us how to obey our parents. Catechism questions 20-23.

3. *Practice*: Sunday Mass: come on time; remain until Mass is over. Obey parents and superiors as promptly and willingly as Jesus obeyed Mary and Joseph.

4. *Activities*:

Hymn: Continue from Tuesday.

Liturgy: Train children on proper behavior in church, genuflecting, taking holy water, kneeling.

Project: Original prayers to Jesus to teach children how to obey God and their parents. Write out these prayers beneath appropriate cut-out pictures. Place on bulletin board or other suitable place for balance of week.

THURSDAY

The Daughter of Jairus

(Review by children of previous lesson)

Aim: To love the goodness and power of Jesus, who is both God and man.

1. *Picture Study and Story*: The daughter of Jairus is raised to life (Luke 8:40-56); The widow's son (Luke 7:11-17).

2. *Doctrine*: Jesus can do miracles. Jesus is God. Jesus hears and answers our prayers. When we pray as we should and ask for what is good for us, Jesus will give us what we ask. Catechism question 53.

3. *Practice*: Review the Our Father. Check on the children's exterior decorum at prayer: folded hands, eyes cast down, posture.

4. *Activities*:

Hymn: Continue Communion hymn.

Liturgy: Praying with the priest, especially at Mass. Get children to observe what they see at Mass.

Project: Color or cut out pictures of Jesus; add brief prayer phrases.

FRIDAY

Jesus Chooses His Apostles

(Review by children of previous lesson)

Aim: To encourage a spirit of reverence for the apostles and for priests.

1. *Picture Study and Story*: Jesus chooses His apostles (Matt. 4:18-22; Luke 6:12-16; John 1:35-51).

2. *Doctrine*: Christ chose twelve apostles. He taught them about God. He gave them power to do wonderful things; to say Mass, to forgive

sins, to baptize, to confirm, to preach. Today the bishops and priests carry on this same work for Jesus. When the priest baptized us, we became God's children. When the bishop confirms us, we will become soldiers of Christ. We will be made strong to do good. Catechism questions 21, 37, 41, 43.

3. *Practice*: Listen attentively to the priest because he teaches what Christ wants you to know. Review the Apostles' Creed up to: "born of the Virgin Mary."
4. *Activities*: Culminating activity program, covering the week's project work, hymns, etc. Let children read their little prayers and talk about the pictures of the week. Use the hymn to reinforce the teaching.

THIRD WEEK

Theme: Sin offends God. Jesus, who is God, will forgive our sins if we are sorry for them.

MONDAY

The First Great Commandment

Aim: To understand the first three commandments as summed up by Christ in His first great commandment of love.

1. *Picture Study and Story*: Jesus teaches the two great commandments (Mark 12:30-31; Matt. 22:36-40).
2. *Doctrine*: Jesus loves us and wants us to love Him. Jesus loves children very much. He teaches them what to do to please God. He shows them how to do it. He helps them with His grace. We show Him that we love Him by thinking of Him often, by praying to Him, and by doing all that He wants us to do. Jesus will come to me in Holy Communion. He wants me to be good. I will tell Him I am sorry for my sins. Catechism questions 44-45.
3. *Practice*: Guide the children in a simple examination of conscience about saying morning and evening prayers every day, often saying Jesus' holy name with reverence, going to Mass on Sundays and holy-days of obligation. Help the children to learn how to tell their sins to the priest who takes Jesus' place in forgiving them. Prayer: Act of Contrition: "O My God . . . all my sins."
4. *Activities*:
Hymn: "O Lord, I Am Not Worthy."
Liturgy: Show the confessional and explain.
Project: Cut or color picture of Jesus blessing children.

TUESDAY

The Second Great Commandment

(Review by children of previous lesson)

Aim: To approach a simple understanding of some of the last seven commandments as summed up by Christ in His second great commandment of love.

1. *Picture Study and Story*: The good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37); the danger of riches (Matt. 19:16-19).
2. *Doctrine*: Jesus wants us to love all men and to show this love by kind thoughts, words, and actions. I show love for my neighbor when I keep the last seven commandments. Keeping these commandments also shows my love for God, because in keeping them I am doing what He wants me to do. Catechism questions 32, 35-36, 45-46.
3. *Practice*: Guide the children in a simple examination of conscience about obedience to parents and teachers; kindness to brothers, sisters, and playmates; honesty toward everyone; truthfulness toward all; purity. Prayer: Act of Contrition: "because of Thy just punishments."
4. *Activities*:

Hymn: Continue from Monday; correlate with doctrine.

Liturgy: Continue explaining about the manner of confessing. Stress sorrow and firm resolution as most important parts of preparation.

Project: Children might write *key words* of commandments for examination of conscience, e.g., prayer, God's name, Sunday, obedience, kindness, purity, honesty, truthfulness.

WEDNESDAY

Contrition

(Review by children of previous lesson)

Aim: To appreciate the goodness of God toward those who are sorry for their sins and who show that they love Him.

1. *Picture Study and Story*: The penitent woman (Luke 7:36-50); the prodigal son (Luke 15:11-24).
2. *Doctrine*: Jesus will forgive our sins but we must be sorry for them. We must be sorry because our sins offend God. We must make up our mind to sin no more.
3. *Practice*: Give additional help in the manner of examination of conscience and telling of sins to the priest. Prayer: Act of Contrition: "but most of all . . . of all my love." Original prayers of sorrow for sin.
4. *Activities*:

Hymn: As above.

Liturgy: As above.

Project: Cut or color pictures suggested by the lesson; add prayer phrases.

THURSDAY Jesus Carries His Cross and Is Crucified

(Review by children of previous lesson)

Aim: True sorrow and hatred of sin because it made Jesus suffer so much.

1. *Picture Study and Story:* The Way of the Cross (Mark 15:20-22); the Crucifixion (Mark 15:23-41).
2. *Doctrine:* Jesus carried the heavy cross to Mount Calvary. My sins made that cross heavy. Jesus was nailed to the cross. It was my sins that crucified Him. Jesus suffered that my sins might be forgiven. He offered His sufferings to God for me. He did all this because He loves me and wants me to be with Him in heaven. I must be sorry for my sins. I must try harder to sin no more. Catechism questions 28-29 and 45-46.
3. *Practice:* Each time I look at the crucifix I will say: "Jesus crucified, forgive me." Before going to confession I will spend some time looking at the crucifix. Prayer: Act of Contrition: "I firmly resolve . . . Amen." Continue the Creed: "Suffered under . . . and was buried."
4. *Activities:*

Hymn: Continue from previous days.

Liturgy: The use of the crucifix in church, at home; also the sign of the cross, as used at Mass and in private devotion.

Project: Cut out pictures as suggested by the lesson, write in text.

FRIDAY Making My First Confession

(Review by children of previous lesson)

Aim: To appreciate Christ's goodness and power to forgive sins and to know how to make my first confession.

1. *Picture Study and Story:* Jesus cures the paralytic (Mark 2:1-12); a child in the confessional.
2. *Doctrine:* Jesus has the power to forgive sins. Jesus forgives our sins when we are sorry for them. The priest takes the place of Jesus in the confessional. He will bless me so that I will make a good confession. He will hear my sins and forgive them. He will give me a penance and he will pray for me that I may be good. Review catechism questions 32-36 and 45-46.

3. *Practice*: I will tell Jesus often that I am sorry for my sins. Teach the formula: "Bless me, Father. . . ." Demonstrate the tone of voice to be used in telling sins and in reciting the Act of Contrition. Teach the concluding formula and indicate when they should leave the confessional.

4. *Activities*:

Devotional program, including the singing of the hymn for the week, a few prayers expressive of sorrow, and viewing of pictures of the Passion.

FOURTH WEEK

Theme: Jesus gave us many great gifts. His best Gift is Holy Mass and Holy Communion.

MONDAY

Jesus on Our Altars

Aim: To show our gratitude to Jesus for His greatest Gift, the Blessed Sacrament.

1. *Picture Study and Story*: The miracle at Cana (John 2:1-10); institution of the Blessed Sacrament (Matt. 26:26-28; Luke 22:19-20).

2. *Doctrine*: At the Last Supper, the night before He died, Jesus changed bread and wine into Himself. He said over the bread: "This is My Body." Over the wine He said: "This is My Blood." Then He gave the apostles the power to change bread and wine into Himself. Catechism questions 48-49.

3. *Practice*: Prayer: The Creed: "He descended . . . dead."

4. *Activities*:

Hymn: Awaken a desire to receive Jesus by means of a First Communion hymn such as "Jesus, Thou Art Coming" or "Jesus, Jesus, Come to Me."

Liturgy: Begin to practice going to the altar, if the children are to make their First Holy Communion; otherwise review manner of approaching the altar rail.

Project: Appropriate pictures with prayer or doctrinal phrases.

TUESDAY

Jesus and Myself at Mass

(Review by children of previous lesson)

Aim: To love and appreciate the Mass.

1. *Picture Study and Story*: Multiplication of the loaves (Luke 9:12-17); Jesus offers Himself in the Mass (Luke 22:19-20).

2. *Doctrine*: Jesus gives the priests the power to change bread and wine into His Body and Blood. At Mass bread and wine are changed into the Body and Blood of Jesus. The priest does what Jesus did at the Last Supper. At Mass Jesus prays for us. At Mass we should pray with Jesus. Catechism questions 50-51.
 3. *Practice*: Reverence at Mass: look at the priest at the altar; say your prayers. At the Offertory say: "Jesus, I give myself to You"; at the Consecration: "My Lord and my God"; at the Communion: "Jesus, come to me." Prayer: The Creed: "He ascended . . . dead."
 4. *Activities*:
Hymn: Continue from Monday.
Liturgy: Continue with practice; add practice of prayers and renewal of baptismal vows as needed.
Project: Continue from Monday.
-

WEDNESDAY First Communion of Apostles
(Review by children of previous lesson)

Aim: To arouse deep faith in Jesus in the Holy Eucharist.

1. *Picture Study and Story*: The apostles receiving their First Holy Communion.
 2. *Doctrine*: When I go to Holy Communion I receive the living Body and Blood of Jesus. Jesus is true God and true man. He comes to me to make me holy and keep me from sin. When I go to Holy Communion I must be free from any big sin. I must not eat or drink after midnight. Catechism questions 52-53 and 29-31.
 3. *Practice*: Manner of approaching the Communion rail, of opening the mouth and extending the tongue to receive Holy Communion. Review Eucharistic hymns. Show children how to use their prayer books. Prayer: The Creed: "I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy Catholic Church."
 4. *Activities*:
Where children are not receiving First Holy Communion, continue project of the week, with pictures and prayer or doctrinal phrases suggested by the lesson. Teacher may tell or read Eucharistic stories.
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THURSDAY How to Prepare for Holy Communion
(Review by children of previous lesson)

Aim: To reverence Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.

1. *Picture Study and Story*: The centurion whose servant was healed by Jesus (Matt. 8:5-13); story of Blessed Imelda.

2. *Doctrine:* Jesus is pleased with us when we believe in Him, hope in Him, and love Him. When Jesus comes to me in Holy Communion, He will make my soul ready for heaven. Catechism questions 53-54.
 3. *Practice:* Before going to Holy Communion I will tell Jesus that I am not worthy to receive Him, but that He can take away all my faults and sins with one word. The Creed: "The communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins."
 4. *Activities:*
Hymn: Prayer or hymn: "O Lord, I am not worthy."
Liturgy: Check on the manner of receiving Holy Communion, saying of prayers for First Communion day, etc.
Project: Continue with booklet, using pictures and doctrinal or prayer phrases appropriate to the lesson.
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FRIDAY

How to Prepare for Holy Communion

(Review by children of previous lesson)

Aim: To arouse a confiding love for Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.

1. *Picture Study and Story:* The story of St. Tarcisus, the boy martyr of the Blessed Sacrament; or St. Louis, King of France.
2. *Doctrine:* Jesus loves little children. It is Jesus, my God, who comes to me in Holy Communion. The early Christians had to stay away from wicked people in order to serve God. I must stay away from sin in order to be pure and holy. Then Jesus will bless me when He comes and will stay with me always. Catechism questions, lesson 7.
3. *Practice:* I will often visit Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. After Communion I will try to remember that I have Jesus with me. I will not quarrel or fight. I will tell the truth. Finish the Creed. Prayer: "O Sacrament Most Holy."
4. *Activities:* Use this period to complete the work of the vacation school. For those classes that are receiving First Holy Communion, this day might be devoted to a brief children's retreat. Summing-up instructions, reading of First Communion stories, singing, and group recitation or prayers will be in order. The day's work should be devotional in character.

Suggested Music Program

A fifteen-minute daily period is recommended for the teaching of sacred music. The hymns may be taught as outlined for each week. Other hymns may be added or substituted but they should be selected from an approved hymnal.

The purpose of the music program is to build a children's choir or to prepare for congregational singing. Begin with a few hymns. When they are learned, the Benediction hymns and High Mass may be taught as time permits. A part of the High Mass may be taught one year and the remainder the succeeding summers. Though this means progressing slowly, it establishes a basis for more advanced choir work.

Plain or Gregorian Chant is the official music of the Church. Its beauty lies in its natural simplicity and spirituality, characterized by free rhythm and simple melody.

In the presentation, great care should be taken to create an atmosphere of love for all that tends to inspire devotion. Each hymn to be learned should be read and explained to the class and its type stated: praise or thanksgiving: joy or sadness, etc. Give full attention to the meaning of the words of each line as well as of each stanza. Have the class repeat the text for distinct enunciation; above all, read so as to emphasize the meaning of the prayer clearly.

REFERENCES

St. Gregory Hymnal, St. Gregory Guild	\$2.00
Parish Kyriale, Liturgical Press15
	quantity .10
Missa de Angelis, Catholic Education Press05
Children's Song Manual, Catholic Education Press60
A Catholic Hymn Book, Paulist Press (words only)05
Praise the Lord, Bruce (see pp. 98-125; words only)20

HYMNS

First Week:

Dear Angel Ever at My Side

Second Week:

Jesus, Thou Art Coming
Dear Little One

Third Week:

O Lord, I Am Not Worthy
Jesus, Jesus, Come to Me

Fourth Week:

Jesus, Thou Art Coming
O Lord, I Am Not Worthy

Recreation Program

The following games have been selected from **Handbook for Recreation Leaders**, 121 pages (see General Index for additional games), U. S. Department of Labor, Publication No. 231, 15c, as being practical for Religious Vacation Schools:

Games for Children under 10 Years of Age

	Page		Page
Air, Water, Fire	53	My Father's a Merchant	
Cat and Rat	14	(indoors)	57
Crows and Cranes	26	Oats, Peas, Beans	11
Drop the Handkerchief	14	Pom, Pom, Pull Away	28
Dumb Crambo (indoors)	54	Shopping	55
Fire in the Mountain	21	Slap Jack	13
Handful Relay (indoors)	31	Snatch the Handkerchief	27
Looby Loo	12	Snip (Grades III-IV)	55
Match Removal (indoors)	69	Three Deep	19

"Suggestions for the Recreation Leader," given in the **Handbook for Recreation Leaders**, page 1, are very useful, and should be followed by anyone in charge of a group of children.

Catechetical Games and Plays, 64 pages, by Rev. Joseph B. Collins, Catechetical Guild, St. Paul, Minn., 50c. Read Introduction; see all games marked Primary, Intermediate.

NOTE: Play until contestants appear tired of one game. Then change to another game. Two games may be played a day, but in most instances one game will furnish enough fun and exercise to last a period. When a number of games are learned by the pupils, it is well to give them their choice. Usually all children prefer to play the same game, when given a choice.

Visual Aids

For descriptive data, write for illustrated circulars and catalogues. See page 39 for complete addresses of publishers.

Ars Sacra, New York. Religious pictures in sepia and color in various sizes. Assorted series; $2\frac{3}{4} \times 4\frac{1}{2}$ inches, per C, \$1.54.

Religious wall pictures depicting scenes from the Old and the New Testaments 25×33 inches, per picture, \$4.80.

Beckley-Cardy Co., Chicago. Twenty colored Mass pictures, $3\frac{7}{8} \times 5\frac{3}{4}$ inches, consisting of 18 subjects, per set, 15c. Life of Christ pictures, including 47 subjects, $3\frac{7}{8} \times 5\frac{3}{4}$ inches, 30c. Character Education Posters, set of 3 with complete directions, 25c.

Catechetical Guild, St. Paul, Minn. Miniature altar complete, \$22.50. Duplicating supplies; rubber stamp sets; Mass views, Sign of the Cross, Seven Rivers of Grace, in lots of 100, 1c each. Hectograph ink projects: 30 Mass views, per sheet, 10c; Creation Color Book, 15c each. Cut-out projects and other devices for religious instruction.

Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Los Angeles, California. Picture sheets 9×12 inches, containing from 8 to 20 miniature reproductions of masterpieces (mostly) in sepia which illustrate the lessons in the project booklet or may be used in original projects. Per sheet, $2\frac{1}{2}$ c. Teachers' model projects at 25c each: **The Primary Book**, Grade I, **First Communion or The Catechism**, Grade II; Prayers A (Primary Booklet), Prayers B (Apostles' Creed Project).

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